PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11) Publication number: 09001861 A

(43) Date of publication of application: 07 . 01 . 97

(51) Int. CI

B41J 2/44 G02B 26/10

(21) Application number: 08111780

(22) Date of filing: 02 . 05 . 96

(62) Division of application: 60267243

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(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To accurately correct a phase difference between optical beams at the time of simultaneously scanning a plurality of optical beams with a simple structure.

SOLUTION: An object to be scanned is scanned by a plurality of optical beams from laser diodes of a semiconductor laser array LD. Image information corresponding to the plurality of optical beams is read from a memory ME according to an image scanning clock Ck_0 corresponding to the one beam received by a synchronizing sensor FS provided out of an image scanning area, and the pieces of image information are respectively input to a plurality of shift registers SL_1 to SL_m . The phases of the pieces of image information input to the plurality of shift registers are regulated according to the plurality of shift clocks Ck_1 to Ck_m generated with the clock Ck_0 as a reference.

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